

01/02/2008To The Commission:

Mr. Miller's comprehensive proposal addresses many of the problems faced today by an increasing number of Amateur Radio operators on the HF bands.

I am in favor of this proposal.

I would additionally like to point out the fallacy of those arguing the validity of Pactor III systems, such as those employed by the WinLink system, as solid backbones for emergency communications, justifying the use of this mode and system on the Amateur Radio bands.

This is a fallacious argument for several reasons.

It is acknowledged that Amateur Radio has often provided short-term emergency communications when there have been no alternatives, and this is certainly providing a public service.

However the communications infrastructure at all levels of government has been undergoing an evolution in the last 5-6 years, and the reliance upon Amateur Radio operators for emergency communications has dwindled. This is not to say that the Amateur Radio Service is not available, but only that it is inevitable that it will be relied upon less and less.

Another fallacy is the concept that the Amateur Radio Service exists to provide emergency communications.

This is not nor has it ever been the purpose of Amateur Radio, which is the pursuit of radio communications solely for personal aim and with no pecuniary interest. This type of attitude is representative of some operators who do not understand the regulatory use of the word "service", but in fact believe that they are members of some government service instituted to provide public services.

Reason seems to have escaped when using emergency communications to substantiate these email systems.

Does any government organization at any level use emails as a means of reliably passing real emergency traffic? I would sure hate to think of someone's life depending on email! If the situation is not a life or death issue, then whatever the concern may be, it can wait until the official and commercial infrastructures come into action, if in fact they were ever absent to begin with.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Mancuso, KI4NGN

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<NAME>Michael

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<CONTACT-EMAIL>mmancuso@nc.rr.com
<TEXT>01/02/2008

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